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Executive Registry

22 February 1978

77-0364/1

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Counsel

FROM:

Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Secrecy Agreements

- 1. I had a conversation with the Vice President today concerning criminal sanctions and the fact that we needed an Administration position when entering into the charter legislation arena. The Vice President's primary concerns are to stop leaks of information and to ensure that our secrecy agreements do not prevent the revelation of abuses. He suggested that perhaps it would strengthen our position if we amended the present secrecy agreements to include a specific provision that nothing in them can strain an individual from reporting abuses of the intelligence process to the Intelligence Oversight Board and/or to either the Senate Select Committee or the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.
- 2. He thought further that making this amendment now and having it made known to the courts that we were doing this might strengthen our position in the Snepp case. We will be in a difficult position if the court rules the secrecy agreements invalid. Such an action as this might help prevent that.

STANSFIELD TURNER

cc: Ms. Deanne Siemer General Counsel, DoD

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